GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1209
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2004
SETTING UP BIO-TECHNOLOGY PARK
Chandrappan Shri C.K.

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government has put forward a proposal through KINFRA for the setting up of a bio-technology park at Kalamasserry (Ernakulam District);

(b) if so, the salient features of the project submitted by KINFRA;

(c) whether the Department of Bio-technology has conducted any study of the said project;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made by them; and

(e) the decision of the Government on the said proposal and the assistance likely to be offered to Kerala for the said project?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) Yes Sir. The Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India has received a proposal from the KINFRA for setting up of a Biotechnology Incubator Centre at Kerala Biotechnology Park.

(b) The Biotech Incubator Centre would be set up for bioprocess and product development, pilot scale facility for commercialisation of medicinal and therapeutic products. It would create a platform for entrepreneurship development through partnership building with the innovators from academia, R&D labs and industry. It is further proposed to create integrated facilities for micropropagation of plants, multiplication of plant cell suspension cultures in bioreactors and extraction of value added products from plants/cells. For catalyzing exports, an analytical laboratory and a toxicity testing facility are also envisaged to facilitate characterization of the bioproducts as per the international guidelines. In addition, the park would provide facilities for production of recombinant therapeutics and specialized diagnostic reagents such as monoclonal antibodies, recombinant peptides, antigens etc., the requirement of which is presently met through imports.

(c) & (d) The proposal has been discussed by Expert Committee on Biotech Parks to evaluate projects on `Setting up Biotechnology Park(s) and Biotechnology Incubators etc.` on 25.10.2004 and was recommended for setting up of: (i) Bioprocessing and scale up facility; (ii) Micro-propagation facility; (iii) Plant extraction facility; (iv) Analytical laboratory facility; and (v) Utility support and design engineering and project supervision.

(e) The Committee has recommended the proposal for assistance and Government of India would support the same based on the approval by the Planning Commission and sufficient availability of funds.